

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**CONTACT:**

## **Don't Trash the Holidays!**

**Cardboard:** Please recycle all of your cardboard boxes. Flatten and either fold or cut to a size not larger than 2 feet by 2 feet. You may bundle cardboard, put it in a paper bag, place it under your recycling bin, or place it standing in or between recycling bins.

**Gift Boxes and Wrapping Paper:** Gift boxes and all non-foil wrapping paper can be included with your paper recycling. Tape and twine is OK, but no ribbons please..

**Holiday Cards and Calendars:** Holiday cards (including envelopes and gift tags) and calendars can be recycled with your paper.

**Other Non-trash items:** Magazines & catalogs, old files, paperboard (e.g. cereal boxes), shredded paper, newspapers, copy paper, paperback books, spiral binders, tape, and staples are all OK for the paper bin! You should also recycle all glass, plastic, and metal bottles and cans.

**Christmas Trees and Wreaths:** Special collections for most towns take place in early January. Please remove all tinsel/garland and DO NOT put in plastic bag.

*According to the National Christmas Tree Association, over 33 million real Christmas trees are sold in North America every year and Christmas tree recycling helps return a renewable resource back to the environment.*

**Americans throw away 25% more trash during the Thanksgiving to New Year's holiday period than any other time of year. On the South Shore alone, the extra waste amounts about 1,000 extra tons per week. So, to help trim the trash while trimming the tree, please remember to recycle all that you can. It saves money for our towns and is good for the environment.**

More than *half* of the paper (including cardboard) that could be recycled on the South Shore is being thrown away. This costs the fifteen towns about \$2 million a year. Statewide, this cost is in excess of \$100 million per year. On the other hand, recycling one ton of paper saves 17 trees, 7,000 gallons of water, 212 gallons of fuel, and reduces pollution emitted into the air. And in Massachusetts, recycling supports 1,437 recycling businesses and organizations and 19,500 jobs.

For more information on what can be recycled as well as creative ideas to avoid putting items out in the trash, go to [ssrc.info](http://ssrc.info) [OR INSERT TOWN INFO]

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